LIBRARY

BOROUGH OF CREWE

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER

OF HEALTH,

1943.

Heads, Printers, Congleton

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

Medical Officer of Health

FOR THE

Borough of Crewe

BY

J. D. INGRAM, M.D., D.P.H., D.M.R.E.

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH,

School Medical Officer, Medical Superintendent of Isolation Hospital and Maternity Home, Medical Officer in Charge of Maternity and Child Welfare.

BOROUGH OF CREWE

HEALTH COMMITTEE 1943

Chairman:

Alderman J. SMITH, J.P.

Members:

HER WORSHIP THE MAYOR (Councillor F. E. White, J.P.)

ALDERMAN R. DUTTON.
„ W. R. FOULKES, J.P.
„ W. C. WHITE, J.P.
„ E. POWELL.

Coun. A. H. BRICKER
„ J. B. HERRING
„ J. S. HOBSON
„ H. J. LAWTON

Coun. Mrs. E. L. MOSSFORD POWELL, J.P. C.C.
„ RIGBY
„ E. T. ROBERTS
„ C. WELCH

MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE COMMITTEE
1943

Chairman:

HER WORSHIP THE MAYOR (Coun. F. E. White, J.P.)

Members:

ALDERMAN F. BOTT, M.B.E., J.P.
" R. DUTTON.
" J. SMITH, J.P.
" W. C. WHITE, J.P.
" E. POWELL, J.P.

Coun. R. BARNETT
" A. BLOSS
" A. H. BRICKER.
" J. B. HERRING.
" J. S. HOBSON
" J. H. L. JONES.
" H. J. LAWTON
" J. A. MADELEY, J.P.

Coun. Mrs. E. L. MOSSFORD POWELL, J.P., C.C.
" R. PEACH
" W. RIGBY.
" E. T. ROBERTS.
" Mrs. E. THEWLIS, J.P.
" C. WELCH.

Co-opted Members:

MRS. ANDRESS.
" BLOSS.
" BUXTON.
" BENNETT.
" PALLITT.
" WARDLE.

PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICES

A—Medical.

J. D. INGRAM, M.D., D.P.H., D.M.R.E., Medical Officer of Health, School Medical Officer, Medical Superintendent of the Maternity Home (whole-time).

CHRISTINA R. LAING, M.A., M.B., Ch.B., D.P,H., Assistant School Medical Officer, Assistant Medical Officer for Maternity and Child Welfare.

A. A. GEMMELL, M.C., M.A., M.D., F.R.C.S., Liverpool, Consultant for Obestetrics.

R. H. RICHMOND, O.B.E., M.B., F.R.C.S., Stoke-on-Trent, and

J. GARDINER WIGLEY, F.R.C.S., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., Hale, Cheshire, Consultants for Puerperal Pyrexia.

BRUCE MACLEAN, M.D., M.B., B.S., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., Newcastle, Staffs., Consultant Physician, Isolation Hospital.

B—Others.

Sanitary Inspectors:

H. Y. STAZICKER (1, 2 and 3), Chief Sanitary Inspector, Inspector under the Diseases of Animals Acts (whole-time).

W. HAZELDINE (4) Sanitary Inspector (whole-time).

R. E. PLATT (3 and 4) Sanitary Inspector (whole-time).

J. L. MOXON (1 and 3) Sanitary Inspector (whole-time).

E. A. BAGGULEY (1 and 3) Temporary Junior District Sanitary Inspector (whole-time). Resigned 6th Nov., 1943.

Health Visitors and Nurses:

M. ROUEN (5 and 6).
E. WILSON (6).
J. MANNING (5 and 6).

Clerical Staff:

R. W. LEACH and MISS E. SHEPLEY, Clerks in Medical Officer's Dept.

T. C. SIMPSON, J. B. HARDMAN, W. DAVIDSON and J. A. TROW, Clerks in Sanitary Inspector's Office.

Isolation Hospital:

Matron (D. WILLIAMS), Sister, Nurses, Maids, Ambulance Driver, Porter, Gardener.

Maternity Home:

Matron (M. E. WALTON), Sister, Midwives, Maids, Gardener.

(1) *Member Royal Sanitary Institute.*
(2) *Member Institute of Cleansing Superintendents.*
(3) *Member Sanitary Inspector's Association.*
(4) *Certificate Royal Sanitary Institute.*
(5) *State Certified Midwife.*
(6) *State Registered Nurse.*

Members of Staff at Present Serving with H.M. Forces:

C. BENNETT (3 and 4) Sanitary Inspector.
D. W. COOKE (4) Temporary Sanitary Inspector's Assistant
J. L. STRINGER, Sanitary Inspector's Assistant.
R. S. BAKER, Clerk.
A. J. LAWTON, Clerk.
W. S. ASTALL, Sanitary Inspector's Assistant (whole-time)

To the Chairman and Members of the Health and Maternity and Child Welfare Committee.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to submit the following Report on the Health Conditions in the Borough of Crewe during the year 1943.

For reasons of economy the report has been abbreviated as much as possible, and for security reasons no figures of population are given.

Area	4414 acres
Rateable Value	£265,135
Sums Represented by the Penny Rate	£1068

Births and Deaths.

The live birth rate was 19.2 per 1000 of the population. Still births represented 2.9% of the total births. The birth rate in England and Wales was 16.5 per 1000 of the population.

The Infantile Mortality was 38.0 per 1000 births. In England and Wales the Infantile Mortality was 49.

The death rate per 1000 of the population was 11.9. The death rate for England and Wales was 12.1 per 1000.

Poor Law Relief.

I am indebted to Mr. W. Owen, Public Assistance Officer, for the following information.

	Half-Year ending 1943	
	31st. Mar.	30th Sept.
Number of indoor poor relieved:		
Not able-bodied	84	102
Insane...	3	12
Children	14	8
Number of outdoor pool relieved in the Borough	498	420
Cost of outdoor relief	£3280	£3273
Number of vagrants relieved	—	—

Laboratory Facilities:

	1943. Positive	Negative
Swabs for Diphtheria	162	797
Sputum for Tubercle baccilli	3	9
Pus for gonococci	1	4
County Council Scheme:		
Sputum for Tubercle baccilli ...	22	229

Ante-Natal Clinic:

During 1943, 5 expectant mothers attended.

Post-Natal Clinic:

In 1943 one mother attended.

Maternity Home:

Admissions during 1943 number 276, of whom 19 came from addresses outside the Borough.

Of these cases 231 were attended by a medical man, and 45 by the midwives of the Home.

The average duration of stay was 13 days.

49 expectant mothers made 291 visits in 1943.

The number of cases admitted as Emergencies was 7.

Work of Health Visitors.

	1943
Visits under 1 year	1798
Re-visits 1-5 years	2672
Visits to illegitimate infants	9
First visits to Ante-natal cases...	7
Re-visits to Ante-natal cases	8
Visits to Stillbirths...	13
Visits to cases of tuberculosis	46
Special Visits	95
Lost Visits	1102

Babies sleeping alone were 96.4% in 1943.

Babies breast bed entirely at the time of the first visit were 64.8% in 1943.

Work of Welfare Centre.

	Attendances	Consultations
Ludford Street Centre	1951	1016
St. John's Centre	3456	1248

Boarded-out Children.

The number of boarded-out children on the register at the end of 1943 was 9.

Orthopaedic Cases.

The number of children under school age who attended the Orthopaedic Centre in 1943 was 63.

Infectious and Other Diseases.

Diphtheria:

In 1943 the number of cases notified was 137.

The ages of children protected against diphtheria in 1943 were:

0-1	18	4-5	45	8-9	38
1-2	212	5-6	97	9-10	35
2-3	56	6-7	53	10-11	33
3-4	44	7-8	65	11-12	15
				12-15	25

Scarlet Fever.

The number of cases notified was 151.

Other Diseases.

Nine cases of Pneumonia were notified in 1943.

Isolation Hospital.

	Scarlet Fever	Diphtheria	Puerperal Pyrexia	Ophthalmia Neonatorum	Cerebro-spinal Fever	Others	Total
In Hospital at end of 1942	11	28	—	—	—	—	39
Admitted during 1943	127	137	1	2	1	5	273
Total	138	165	1	2	1	5	312
Discharged 1943 ...	135	155	1	2	1	5	299
Died 1943	—	5	—	—	—	—	5
In Hospital at end of 1943	3	5	—	—	—	—	8

Ambulance Facilities.

The Corporation maintained five ambulances, two for the conveyance of infectious disease cases and three for non-infectious cases and accidents.

The total number of journeys made during the year 1,582 and the distance covered was 30,842 miles.

Closet Accommodation.

At the end of the year, the number of closets of each type in the Borough was:—

Water Closets	14,974
Waste Water Closets	962
Pail Closets	211
Privy Middens	5

Refuse Collection and Disposal.

The refuse collection service was maintained satisfactorily throughout the year. 11 motor vehicles (including 2 specially for the collection of food scraps and 2 spares) are used for the collection of household and trade refuse, 1 for the collection of nightsoil and 2 for refuse disposal.

Amount of household refuse collected ...	10,479 tons.
Amount of trade refuse collected	576 tons.

2,544 tons of shop and factory refuse were also brought to the Works for disposal, making a total of 13,599 tons of refuse dealt with during the year. 10,063 tons or 73.9% passed through the Works, the remainder being disposed of by controlled tipping.

The estimated amount of nightsoil collected was 310 tons.

Sanitary Inspections.

Nature of Inspections Made.	Number	No. of Notices served		Result of Notices served		Persecue's	
		Informal	Statutory	Notices complied with	Remaining in hand	Instituted	Pending
1. Dwelling Houses ...	115	106	35	41	100	...	...
2. Dwelling Houses (Inspection under Housing Act, 1936) ...	162	138	81	97	122	...	...
3. Back-to-back Houses ...	...	...	..	...	...	...	...
4. Tents, Vans, Sheds, etc ...	17	1	...	1	...	...	
5. Verminous Houses ...	146	18	...	18	...	.	...
6. Privy Pails, Ashpails, etc. ...	1158	380	102	456	32	...	...
7. Courts, Yards & Passages ...	...	...	..	...	..	...	...
8. House Drainage ...	1617	140	89	229	...	...	...
9. Ditches, Water Courses, etc..	7	...	...	...	...	...	...
10. Offensive Accumulations ...	19	4	..	4	..	...	...
11. Keeping of Animals ...	37	3	...	2	1	...	
12. Offensive Trades ...	26	20	...	20	...	...	...
13. (a) Slaughterhouses ...	698	...	...	...	..	...	...
(b) Other places where food is sold ...	2094	3	...	3	...	...	...
14. Piggeries ...	72	...	...	...	...	...	...
15. (a) Cowsheds ...	239	102	...	102	...	...	...
(b) Dairies & Milkshops ...	201	3	...	2	1	...	...
16. (a) Factories (with Mechanical Power) ...	80	3	...	3	...	...	...
(b) Factories (with no Mechanical Power) ...	28	...	...	...	...	...	...
(c) Workplaces ...	5	...	...	...	...	...	...
(d) Outworkers Premises ...	3	14	...	14	...	...	...
17. Bakehouses ...	144	46	1	47	..	..	...
18. Common Lodging Houses ...	229	8	...	8	...	...	...
19. Shops under Shops Acts ...	285	1	...	...	1	...	...
20. Smoke Observations ...	2	...	...	...	...	...	
21. Infectious Diseases Inquiries and revisits ...	551	...	...	...	...	..	...
22. Houses re. Overcrowding ...	45	...	...	...	...	...	...
23. Salvage ...	460	...	...	...	..	...	...
24. Miscellaneous ...	1168	...	...	...	...	...	...
25. Re-inspections ...	927	...	...	...	...	...	...
26. Food and Drugs Act, (including samples) ...	189	...	...	...	...	...	..
27. Rats & Mice Destruction ...	286	...	...	...	...	...	...
TOTALS ...	11010	996	308	1047	257	...	...

Eradication of Bed Bugs.

Number of Council Houses found to be infested	5
Number of Council Houses disinfested	5
Number of other houses found to be infested	10
Number of other houses disinfested	10

In addition to the above, 5 houses were treated for beetles, cockroaches and ants.

Factories and Workplaces.

During the year, 116 inspections were made of factories and workplaces, while 14 lists were received from makers of wearing apparel relating to 3 outworkers.

Common Lodging Houses.

There are 4 Common Lodging Houses in the Borough and the following table shows the number of persons who used them during 1943, with comparative figures for the two preceding years.

	Adults		Children.	
	Males	Females	Males	Females
1943	12298	859	—	—
1942	14028	1009	—	469
1941	15304	963	—	112

During 1943, 229 inspections were made of these premises.

Offensive Trades.

The following offensive trades are carried on in the Borough: Rag and Bone Dealers—2; Gut Scraper—1; there is also 1 Knacker's Yard in the Borough.

Pig Keepers.

The number of persons keeping pigs on premises in the Borough is 52.

Rag Flock.

There are no premises in the Borough at which Rag Flock is manufactured but it is sold and used on three premises.

Schools.

The water supply and sanitary conveniences of the elementary schools in the Borough are satisfactory.

HOUSING STATISTICS.

Number of New Houses erected during the year ... None

1. Inspection of Dwelling Houses during the year.

(1) (a) Total number of dwelling houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts). 244

(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose 277

(2) (a) Number of dwelling houses (included under sub-heading [1] above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925 138

(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose 155

(3) Number of dwelling houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation ... ... —

(4) Number of dwelling houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-heading) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation 244

2. Remedy of defects during the year without Service of Formal Notices.

Number of defective dwelling houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their Officers 67

3. Action under Statutory Powers during the year.

(a) Proceedings under Sections 9, 10 and 16 of the Housing Act, 1936:

(1) Number of dwelling houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs 82

(2) Number of dwelling houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices:

(a) By owners 27

(b) By Local Authority in default of owners 9

(b) Proceedings under the Public Health Acts:

(1) Number of dwelling houses in respect of which Notices were served requiring defects to be remedied 36

(2) Number of dwelling houses in which defects remedied after service of formal notices:

(a) By Owners 17

(b) By Local Authority in default of owners 1

(c) Proceedings under Sections 11 and 13 of the Housing Act, 1936 ... ... —

4. Housing Act, 1936—Part IV.—Overcrowding.

(a) (1) Number of dwellings overcrowded at the end of the year 26

(2) Number of families therein 32

(3) Number of persons dwelling therein 206

(b) Number of new cases of overcrowding reported during the year 2

(c) (1) Number of cases of overcrowding relieved during the year 7

(2) Number of persons concerned in such cases ... 62

(d) Particulars of any cases in which dwelling houses have become overcrowded after the local authority have taken steps for the abatement of overcrowding ... ... —

MILK SUPPLY.

Number of cowsheds occupied for production of milk in the Borough at the present time 50

Number of cowsheds up to the standard required by this Local Authority under the Milk and Daries Order, 1926 48

Number of cowsheds which have not yet been brought up to the standard required by this Local Authority under the Milk and Dairies Order, 1926, in accordance with Statutory Notices and Lists of Recommendation from this Department 2

Inspection of Registered Premises.

440 inspections of registered premises were made by the Sanitary Inspectors during the year.

Retail Purveyors of Milk.

151 persons are registered to sell milk within the Borough from premises and vehicles, 59 are registered for the sale of sealed bottled milk only, making a total of 210 registered retail purveyors of milk.

Meat and other Foods.

Number of inspections of Slaughterhouses made during the year 698

Number of inspections of premises where food is stored or prepared or kept for sale 2094

Number of inspections of bakehouses 144

The following is a tabulated statement of the types of animals slaughtered and inspected together with particulars of diseases found necessitating complete or partial condemnation :—

Carcases Inspected and Condemned.

	Cattle excluding Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs
Number killed	1199	2627	2901	9434	354
*Number inspected	1199	2659	2901	9435	354
ALL DISEASES EXCEPT TUBERCULOSIS					
Whole carcases condemned ...	12	95	46	13	12
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned ...	566		22	292	35
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than Tuberculosis ...	17.44%		2.34%	3.23%	13.28%
TUBERCULOSIS ONLY					
Whole carcases condemned ...	24	135	3	....	5
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned ...	1522		8	....	123
Percentage of the number inspected affected with Tuberculosis.	43.57%		0.37%	....	36.16%

NOTE—*These figures include additional animals slaughtered outside the Borough but inspected here.

DISEASE	Weight—Lbs.											
	Beef	Veal	Mutton	Pork	Bacon and Ham	Eggs	Fish	Fruit & Veg.	Butter, Marg & Cheese	Tinned Foods	Miscellaneous	Total
Tuberculosis	117145	115	...	3640	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	120900
Dropsy	24532	89	149	100	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	24870
Fevered	7154	494	263	135	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	8046
Septicæmia	5950		...	...	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	5950
Pyæmia	392	190	...	...	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	582
Uræmia	416	59	...	...	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	475
Jaundice	808	130	...	...	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	938
Odour	384	...	..	...	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	384
Peritonitis	308	...	...	...	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	308
Moribund	610	359	256	221	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	1446
Actinomycosis	196	...	...	...	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	196
Immaturity	...	159	...	...	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	159
Erysipelas	...	...	...	449	....	....	...	....	....	....	....	449
Rheumatism	...	...	...	68	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	68
Rickets	...	...	...	91	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	91
Cirrosis	1831	..	50	4	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	1885
Abscesses	2526	9	85	60	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	2690
Parasites & Cysts ...	5107	481	...	...	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	5592
Angioma	676	...	...	...	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	676
Pericarditis	341	...	...	...	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	341
Degeneration	584	18	18	6	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	626
Inflammation & Cong....	127		9	23	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	159
Emphysema	26	...	...	...	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	26
Injury	6411	43	120	465	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	7039
Decomposition	481	...	186		427	123	1555	39	95	5919	1852	11028
TOTALS ...	176297	1671	162	5296	427	123	1555	390	95	5919	1852	195252

Food and Drugs Act, 1938.

The following samples were taken during the year:—

Almond Flavouring (1); Baking Powder (4); Biscuit Powder (1); Black Currant Wine (1); Bloater Paste (1); Cake & Bun Mixture (1); Camphorated Oil (1); Chest and Lung Mixture (1); Chocolates (1); Cocktail (2); Cocoa (3); Coffee (2); Compound Glycerine & Thymol (1); Cordials (8); Custard Powder (2); Cough Mixture (2); Dessert Mould (1); Dessert Powder (1); Egg Substitute Powder (2); Essence of Lemon (1); Fish Paste (2); Flour (3); Forcemeat (1); Friquie Savoury Food (1); Gelatine (1); Gravy Browning (1); Junket Powder (1); Karay Tablets (1); Lemon Flavouring (1); Lime Water (1); Macleans Stomach Powder (1); Meat and Vegetable Extract (1); Milk (63); Milk, Machine Skimmed (1); Milk Powder, Skimmed (1); Mustard (1); Orange Wine Essence (1); Oxtail Soup (1); Parrishes Food (1); Pudding Mixture (2); Sage & Onion Stuffing (2); Sandwich Mixture (1); Sandwich Paste (1); Sausages (1); Sponge Mixture (1); Stomach Powder (1); Stuffing (2) · Sugar (2); Syrup of Figs (1); Table Cream (1); Talcum Powder (1); Toffee (1); Vinegar (3); Yorkshire Relish (1).

Total—142.

I give below particulars of the samples adulterated or otherwise not up to standard:—

Sample	Result of Analysis.	Remarks
Toffee	Contaminated with dirt and small pieces of wood.	Informal sample Stock withdrawn
Chocolate	Contaminated with mice excrement.	Informal sample Notification sent to Ministry of Food
Sugar	Contained 15% Ground Rice	Informal sample Subsequent formal sample proved genuine

Spitfire Cocktail	Contained no fruit juices	Informal sample
Spitfire Cocktail	Contained no fruit juices	Formal sample Stock withdrawn
Milk	3% deficient of its fat	Vendor cautioned
Milk	5% deficient of its fat	Vendor cautioned
Milk	8% deficient of its fat	Vendor cautioned
Milk	15% deficient of its fat	3 "Appeal-to-Cow" samples deficient in fat by 1%, 5% and 6% respectively Vendor cautioned.
Milk	27% deficient of its fat	Vendor cautioned Subsequent samples proved genuine
Grape Fruit	Incorrectly labelled	Informal sample Manufacturers notified
Self-Raising Flour	Infested with mites	Informal sample Stock withdrawn and surrendered